

2023 Front Entrance Report (Maintenance Committee)

We planted the annual flowers in the front planting boxes ourselves (\$36.02 for two flats-Hessell's).

We contracted again with St. Nicks Holiday Lighting for the holiday lights at a cost of \$1150.00. As mentioned last year, they are priced considerably lower than other companies. FLHA contracted with this company to secure the 'customer loyalty' pricing and re-use of the actual lights, which we now "own" (they store them for us). FLHA pays for the labor for installation and removal and storage of the lights. [repurposed 6 strands that were previously on boxwoods to handle growth on trees]

We again used H₂O sprinkler services to winterize the sprinkler system at a cost of \$65.00. We were able to save the additional \$60.00 for the sprinkler/meter start-up by installing the meter ourselves and contacting the township to turn the water on. No sprinkler repairs were necessary this year.

Electricity for the front entrance: \$405.20 Water for front entrance irrigation: \$468.60

We contracted with Suburban Landscape Management for lawn treatments in 2023 (6 fertilizations and 1 grub control) at a cost of \$453.00.

We contracted with J. H. Hart Urban Forestry for Tree Fertilization and Disease Control. The fir/spruce were treated for needle cast/fungal diseases. The crab trees had been added, once again, to the treatment services for 2023 due to increasing damage from scab disease. Total=\$438.00

We again contracted with R&R Landscaping for Grass cutting, Tree and Bush Trimming and Fall clean-up at a total cost of \$1906.00:

29 cuts @\$39.00 each=\$1,131.00

Fall Clean up =\$135.00 (not billed as of end of year)

Tree and Bush Trimming = \$775.00

As approved at the last FLHA meeting we also had R&R Landscaping remove 5 diseased/dying junipers and 12 boxwoods at the front entrance at a cost of \$800.00. On 3/30/23 at a cost of \$70.42 we obtained and placed 7 bags of slatescape decorative rocks in the signage areas to fill in the areas where the boxwoods had been and fix bare areas that had degraded over many years.

During the Township/County installation of the crosswalk/bike path on 22 Mile and Whitemill the west side of the front entrance was damaged. The landscape border was partially removed (some sections were actually cut), and a curb was put in parallel to the existing border. Our grass, flowers, and decorative rocks were also damaged by excavation, cement and cement curing overspray. The border required repair, flowers needed to be replaced, landscape rocks needed to be replaced, and even though they graded and reseeded, the grass needed further work. We replaced flowers ourselves on two separate occasions (6/9/23 and 7/26/23) at a cost of \$19.05. We obtained and placed 2 additional bags of slatescape decorative rocks at a cost of \$20.12. We requested quotes from 5 vendors for the repair of the border blocks. We chose to include realignment of all of the border blocks around the front entrance landscaping as they had shifted (since last addressed in 2005 or earlier) due to freezing, thawing and tree root pressure. 3 bids were received and Suburban Landscaping was given the job as they were the lowest bid received-\$2,600.00. Following the realignment, the area surrounding the border blocks (particularly where the construction had taken place) needed additional fill dirt. We obtained and placed 5 bags of topsoil ourselves (\$13.28) to fill in gaps left from the construction. Because the realignment caused the border blocks on the east side to be raised significantly, we hired R&R Landscaping to fill the area with barn red decorative rocks at a cost of \$750.00. R&R also added topsoil to a couple of areas that were left indented by county/township contractor equipment and we had them oversee the entire area that

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had been seeded by the contractors since their result was not as good or better than our original grass as promised (\$175.00).

After many emails, telephone calls and face to face meetings with representatives from the county, the township, the township engineers and the contractors that did the "work", FLHA was able to recover \$404.17 from the township to offset the damages to the pavers, flowers, grass and decorative rock.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne and Gary Bejcek